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I

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF PORTISHEAD

A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF

DR. K. G. COLLINS

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR

YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER 1963

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

PORTISHEAD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year ended

31st December 1963

Medical Officer of Health	Dr. K.G. Collins, M.B., Ch.B.
Housing Manager and Public Health Inspector	S. Taylor, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Committees concerned with matters related to Public Health:

Works Committee
Health Committee
Housing Committee
Tenancy Committee
Accident Prevention Committee

To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council of Portishead.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the health and sanitary condition of the District in 1963, on behalf of Dr. K.G. Collins. The information conforms with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, together with other material of interest.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Population as assessed by the Registrar General for Mid 1963	- 7,040
Rateable Value (new Valuation List)	- £552,440
Product of Penny Rate	- £2,250
Area	- 1,119 acres
Number of permanent dwellings in District at 31.12.63	- 2,075

VITAL STATISTICS

(a) Live Births

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	62	55	117
Illegitimate	3	1	4
Totals	65	56	121

(b) Live Birth Rate (Figures in brackets are the rates for England and Wales)
17.2 (crude) 18.9 (adjusted) (18.2)

(c) Still Births Nil male and 1 Female (legitimate)

The still birth rate is 8.2 per 1,000 total live and still births. (17.2)

(d) Infant Deaths

	Male	Female	Total
Under one week	3	-	3
Under four weeks	3	-	3
Under twelve months	3	-	3

(e) Mortality Rates (*)

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	24.8 (20.9)
" " " " " legitimate births	25.6
" " " " " illegitimate births	nil
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (first 4 weeks) per 1,000 related live births	24.8 (14.2)
Early neo-natal Mortality Rate (first week) per 1,000 related live births	24.8 (12.1)
Peri-natal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths during first week) per 1,000 total live and stillbirths.	32.8 (29.3)
Percentage of illegitimate live births	3.3
Maternal Deaths (excluding abortion)	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate (including abortions)	Nil

(*) These figures are of little significance owing to the small numbers involved; one case, either way, producing a distorted result.

(f) Deaths (all ages)

Total number of deaths during the year - 77

Death Rate (corrected) 12.4 per 1,000

That for England and Wales for 1963 was 12.2

The causes of death are given by cause and in age groups, in the table that follows. 48% of the deaths occurred over the age of 75.

CAUSE OF DEATH

	Sex	Total	Under four weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & over
Syphilitic Disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Other Infective &	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parasitic Diseases	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Stomach	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Lung, Bronchus	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm													
Breast	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Other Malignant &	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	1
Lymphatic Neoplasm	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
Leukaemia,	M	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aleukaemia	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diabetes	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Vascular Lesions of	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Nervous System	F	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	7
Coronary Disease,	M	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	4
Angina	F	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5
Hypertension with	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Heart Disease	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Other Heart Disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Other Circulatory	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Disease	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
Influenza	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Bronchitis	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ulcer of stomach	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
& duodenum	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nephritis &	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
nephrosis	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Hyperplasia of	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
prostate													
Other defined & ill-	M	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
defined diseases	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Motor Vehicle	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Accidents	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
All other accidents	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Total All Causes	M	38	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	5	7	9	13
	F	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	10	24

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE

The following numbers of cases of notifiable disease were reported during the year:

Measles	54
Scarlet Fever	1
Dysentery	1
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	6
Tuberculosis, Non-respiratory	1
Whooping cough	29
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	2
Erysipelas	1

IMMUNISATION

The following figures are supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health. The work is carried out by the general practitioners and at school or welfare clinics.

Date of Birth

Tetanus - Primary

1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1954-58	1949-53	Total
36	89	11	2	2	19	1	160
Reinforcing injections							
-	2	-	-		122	17	141

Diphtheria - Primary

36	89	11	2	2	19	1	160
Reinforcing injections							
-	2	-	-		122	17	141

Whooping cough

36	89	11	2	2	2	-	142

Smallpox

0-3 mths	4-6 mths	7-9 mths	10-12 mths	1 year	2-4 years		5-14 years		15 or over	
P	P	P	P	P	P	R	P	R	P	R
-	2	1	1	10	1	1	2	1	1	14

P = Primary; R = Reinforcing

Poliomyelitis - Primary

1963	1962	1943-61	1933-42	Under 40 & Priority
8	70	90	12	10

Reinforcing

Number of persons (all groups) who received a reinforcing dose of oral vaccine following 2 Salk injections - 17

Number of children aged 5-11 who received a dose of oral vaccine following 3 Salk injections - 167

The rate of immunisation against diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough, and poliomyelitis, is high and improving. Smallpox vaccination shews a large drop this year, because there were no cases nearby, as in the previous year.

WATER SUPPLY

All permanent dwellings in the district have a mains supply. Shortage occurred in January and February because of the very severe weather, and water had to be distributed to parts of the district by tanker. There was no contamination of the supply.

The hardness of the water is resented when Portishead is supplied from Chelvey, rather than Barrow. This happens when rainfall is below average and the reserves at Barrow have to be built up for the supply of large numbers of houses, all served by the Bristol Waterworks Company. Nevertheless, the Chelvey water is only one third as hard as the old Portishead supply.

There are no houses dependent on well or spring supply.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Urban District is sewered except for the Nore Park and Redcliffe Bay areas which areas are now being provided with sewers by contract, and work is 50% completed.

Future proposals	Approximate Cost
(1) New rising main, pumps etc. from Bristol Road to Beach Hill with ancillary works to sewer in Welly Bottom.	£27,000
(2) New 24" and 42" Storm water sewers, Coombe Avenue to rhine across Victoria Square Playing Field.	£10,000
(3) Method of future disposal of sewerage from main town area under consideration.	

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

There are no chemical or pail closets used in the district.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

House refuse is removed by direct labour, using one Fore and Aft Tipper and is collected weekly. Trade refuse is collected by arrangement, with general collection from certain shop properties and business premises on agreement charges. House and trade refuse are disposed of by controlled tipping in one tip.

Cesspool emptying is done by private arrangement with a contractor.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

The local authority pool is proving a great success and attraction. The setting is beautiful and many people derive a great deal of pleasure and benefit from the pool.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS

One part-time worker is employed, averaging 20 hours per week. The following table shews the types of premises and number of visits made.

		Type of Property				
		Non-Agricultural				Agricultural
		(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	(3) All other (including business premises)	(4) Total of Col. (1)(2) & (3)	(5)
Number of Properties in Local Authority's District		10	2,088	308	2,406	10
Total Number of Properties inspected as a result of notification		2	47	9	58	Nil
Number of such Properties found to be infested by						
Common rat	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	1	38	3	42	-
Ship rat	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	-	-	-	-	-
House mouse	Major	-	1	1	2	-
	Minor	1	8	5	14	-
Total number of properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act		16	Nil	6	22	Nil
Number of such properties found to be infested by						
Common rat	Major	2	-	-	2	-
	Minor	8	-	3	11	-
Ship rat	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	-	-	-	-	-
House mouse	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	2	-	1	3	-
Total number of properties otherwise inspected (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)		-	-	-	-	-
Number of such properties found to be infested by						
Common rat	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	-	-	-	-	-
Ship rat	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	-	-	-	-	-
House mouse	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	-	-	-	-	-
Total inspections carried out including re-inspections		94	243	57	394	Nil
Number of infested properties (in sections II, III & IV) treated		14	47	13	74	Nil
Total treatments carried out including re-treatments		76	196	42	314	Nil
Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act						
(a) Treatment		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Structural work		Nil	1	Nil	1	Nil

HOUSING

Action taken during the year:

(1) Number of houses included in Clearance Areas for which Orders are still to be made	Nil
(2) Number of houses in Clearance Areas which have been patched for temporary accommodation under Section 48 of the Housing Act, 1957	Nil
(3) Number of houses closed or demolished under Section 42 of the Housing Act, 1957 (Clearance Areas)	Nil
(4) Number of houses demolished or closed (a) under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957 (individual unfits)	5
(b) for other purposes (road improvements etc.)	1
(5) Number of temporary dwellings (huts, etc.) demolished	17
(6) Number of houses declared unfit under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957 (capable of repair)	Nil
(7) Number of houses made fit during year	3
(8) Number of unfit houses occupied under licence	Nil
(9) Houses in multiple occupation (Housing Act, 1961) Action taken	Nil
(10) Reconditioning of Condemned Houses - Exclusion from Clearance/Demolition Orders (Housing Act, 1961)	Nil
(11) Substitution of Closing Order for Demolition Order (Housing Act, 1961) Action taken	Nil
(12) Rent Act, 1957 (1st Schedule)	
Certificates of Disrepair:	
(a) Number of applications received	Nil
(b) Number of Certificates issued	Nil

Houses erected during the year

By Council	Nil
By Private Enterprise	41

Houses in course of erection at 31.12.63

By Council	17
By Private Enterprise	41

Gained from conversion of large houses

By Council	6
By private enterprise	Nil

Number of Post-war Houses (1.4.45 to 31.12.63)

By Council	552
By Private Enterprise	514

Number of Temporary housing units occupied

Prefabs	2

Number of houses found overcrowded 5

HOUSING (cont.)

Houses required

(i)	To replace houses scheduled for demolition	2
(ii)	To abate overcrowding	5
(iii)	For other purposes	44
(iv)	Applications for Council houses at end of year -	
	(a) Urgent bona fide cases	9
	(b) Applications for Old People's dwellings	48
	(c) Others	116
	Total applications	173
(v)	Total number of Council houses sold during the year	1

	No.of permanent dwellings in District as at 31.12.62 (a)	Gained from conversions & erected during 1963 (b)	Total (a) + (b)	Less houses demolished, closed etc. during year	No.of permanent dwellings in District as at 31.12.63 L.A.	P.E.
L.A.	620	6	626	18		
P.E.	1431	41	1472	5	608	1467
Totals	2051	47	2098	23	2075	

Old People's Dwellings

No. erected to 31.12.63 with County Council aid, as to Warden and Bell system	40
No. in course of erection at 31.12.63	17

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

A. Discretionary

Number of applications received	8
Number of houses involved	10
Number of applications approved	7
Number of houses involved	9
Number of applications approved in respect of owner/occupiers	6
Average cost per dwelling approved	£492
Amount of grant payable by Council	£2193

B. Standard

Number of applications received	1
Number of applications approved	1

Standard amenities - 6 provided
Owner/occupiers - 1 approved

CAMPING SITES

	Permanent	Seasonal
(a) Number of licensed individual moveable dwellings	1	Nil
(b) Number of site licences issued in respect of more than one caravan	1	Nil
(c) Estimated maximum number of occupants resident during year	40	Nil
(d) Number of sites closed as a result of above Act	Nil	Nil

FOOD

Milk

(a) Number of Registered Distributors 2
(b) Number of Registered Dairy Premises 2
(other than Dairy Farms)

Notices served under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959 - Nil

Ice-Cream

Number of premises registered for:

(a)	Manufacture and retail	Nil
(b)	Manufacture only	Nil
(c)	Retail only	22

FOOD HYGIENE

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

Routine inspections of premises were carried out. Informal advice and instruction was given to food handlers during visits of inspection. Co-operation of traders was generally found to be quite satisfactory. Several improvements were made, particularly with regard to refrigeration. No prosecutions were instituted.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are none in the district.

PREMISES WHERE FOOD IS PREPARED

Number registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, (Ice-Cream, Manufactured Meat Products, etc.) - 9

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Clean Air Act, 1956

Monthly reports are received on the analysis of grit deposits and sulphur dioxide gauges at three sites in the town. Representatives of Messrs. Albright and Wilson and the Council meet at six monthly intervals to discuss any complaints which have arisen.

The Central Electricity Generating Board's power stations are a constant threat in the area. Complaints are dealt with by the Alkali Inspector, and he also deals with complaints which may be due to the chemical factory.

While the main causes of complaint are visible, i,e. black smoke and grit deposits, the dangers to health are concerned with small invisible particles and gases.

Next year it is hoped to install a more accurate measuring method of these hazards, in one site.

AGRICULTURAL (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956

Inspections were made of the five farms in this district and they were all found to comply with the provisions of the Acts concerning sanitary conveniences.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1963 FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF PORTISHEAD IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Part I of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	13	21	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities	14	17	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	8	14	Nil	Nil
Total	35	52	Nil	Nil

2. Cases in which defects were found - Nil

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork (Sections 133 and 134) - Nil

CONCLUSION

I would like to thank Dr. K.G. Collins on your behalf and mine for the work he has done as the Medical Officer of Health of Portishead

The compiling of this report depends a great deal on figures supplied by the Public Health Inspector and is a record of part of his work.

Finally, I would like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their co-operation with the Medical Officer of Health.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

V. R. Baker.

Medical Officer of Health

July 1964